

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**

P.O. Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100

P (916) 322-3350 | [www.rn.ca.gov](http://www.rn.ca.gov)

Ruth Ann Terry, MPH, RN, Executive Officer



## **POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING VIOLENCE AGAINST HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND PATIENTS**

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The Board of Registered Nursing expresses concern regarding incidents of violence directed against health care workers and patients. Health care administration and staff are encouraged to form task forces to evaluate each institution's current safety features and then to institute appropriate policies and environmental changes that will increase safety for health care workers and patients while continuing to provide quality, non-discriminatory health care to the people of California. The Board of Registered Nursing favors legislation that would increase penalties for the commission of violence upon the person of a health care worker. The Board also favors the creation of "safe zones" contiguous to health care facilities.